

AMERICAN DRAGON
"ACT 4, SCENE 15"
7W14-112

TEASER:

EXT. MANHATTAN DOCKS - NIGHT

On deck of an Egyptian cargo freighter, the HUNTSMAN angrily shoots a series of BLASTS from his staff. (NOTE: The end of a large cargo crane hangs overhead.)

1 HUNTSMAN
Out of my way, Dragons! The magical scarab beetle is mine!

DRAGON JAKE, DRAGON GRANDPA, and FU DOG dodge the blasts as-
Thorn spots the GLOWING MYSTICAL SCARAB BEETLE scurrying across the deck. She dives for it, but misses.

2 THORN
I got it!

Jake dives a moment later, but it slips out of his fingers.

3 JAKE
No, I got it! Man, that thing is slicka than grease!

An errant staff blast hits a CRATE on which the beetle sits. The crate EXPLODES, jettisoning the insect into the air and-

4 SCARAB BEETLE
-onto the docks where it scurries across a PLANTER filled with dead grass and flowers. Near the edge of the freighter, Thorn and the Huntsman turn toward the docks as Jake, behind them, grabs the overhead CRANE HOOK. He takes a running start and uses it to swing across the cargo bay.

5 JAKE
The Huntsman and Thorn whip around just as BAM! Jake intentionally collides with them-

6 HUNTSMAN
Wha...? AHHH!

7 THORN
Whooah!

-sending them overboard and into the water. SPLASH!

A cocky Jake swings across the water and over the docks, making a muscle with his dragon bicep.

8 JAKE
Yeah! How you like that move,
Gramps? 'Cause lemme tell ya, I-

BAM! Jake smacks into the wall of a structure on the dock, causing him to comically punch himself in the face.

9 JAKE
Aw... man...

LOW ANGLE ON DOCKS - Jake lands on the dock floor with the scarab beetle nearby in the extreme F.G. An upside down MASON JAR enters frame and traps it.

10 FU DOG (O.S.)
Gotcha!

11 SCARAB BEETLE
WIDEN - Fu scoops up the bug in the jar and fastens the LID (which has a few holes drilled in it). Grandpa (now in human form) helps Jake to his feet, looking over his shoulder.

12 GRANDPA
Hurry, we must get the beetle out of here!

As Jake, Grandpa, and Fu Dog hurry off with the beetle, we PAN TO the planter filled with dead grass and flowers.

13 JAKE (O.S.)
I still don't get it. What's so magical about this bug, anyway?

The grass in the planter magically COMES BACK TO LIFE and a

few beautiful flowers BLOOM.

SMASH CUT TO:

OPENING CREDIT SEQUENCE

FADE IN:

EXT. SCHOOL - NEXT MORNING - ESTABLISHING

14 TRIXIE (V.O.)
You tellin' me that bug can
actually bring junk to life?

INT. SCHOOL COMPUTER LAB - NEXT MORNING

Jake and TRIXIE sit side-by-side in the lab. SPUD sits in
between them, reading from an upside down BOOK.

15 JAKE
That's what my Gramps says.

Trixie turns Spud's book right side up.

16 TRIXIE
How 'bout you hold it over Spud's
head and wake up some of those
brain cells?

Spud knocks loudly on his head.

17 SPUD
Good luck. These little dudes are
heavy sleepers.

Just then, Jake turns and looks O.S.

18 JAKE
Ooooh, smoke!

POV - In glorious SLO-MO, ROSE saunters in, bathed in a
beatific hyper-reality glow. Her hair bounces...

BACK TO REALITY

Trixie rolls her eyes, snapping Jake out of his fantasy.

19 TRIXIE

Yo, ga-ga boy. If you're still
crushin' on that Rose girl, just
ask her out already and end the
suffering.

20 JAKE

Ask her out? No way, Trix. Mack
Daddy Jake's gotta play it cool.
Watch and learn.

Jake saunters over to Rose.

21 JAKE

What up, Rose? Haven't had a
chance to dance to you since the
talk. I mean talk to you since the
chance! I mean...

Trixie shakes her head, and asides to Spud.

22 TRIXIE

What I'm learnin' is that Jake
doesn't know English.

BACK ON JAKE AND
ROSE

Rose smiles at Jake's stammering.

23 ROSE

It's cool. I know what you mean.
It's good to see you, too.

Just then, the school's drama teacher, MS. JENKINS, peeks her
head in.

24 MS. JENKINS

Cleopatra. Rehearsals in five? You
coming, queenie?

25 JAKE

Uh... Did Ms. Jenkins just call you
Cleopatra? And queenie?

Rose nods.

26 ROSE

The Drama Club's doing "Antony and
Cleopatra" for the Shakespeare in
the Park Celebration next week.

Ms. Jenkins walks up to Rose, checking her watch.

27 MS. JENKINS
And Ms. Rose is the Queen of my
Nile. Now come on, sugar, the
curtain calls!

She spins Rose on her heels and whisks her out the door. Rose turns back to Jake.

28 ROSE
So Jake, I'll, uh, see you soon?

29 MS. JENKINS
Soon? Don't be absurd! You are to
spend the next week eating,
drinking and scene-studying "Antony
and Cleopatra!"

As they exit-

30 MS. JENKINS
...Now we just need to work on
finding you an Antony...

Jake just stands there, the wheels in his head turning.

31 JAKE
Antony, huh? As in Cleopatra's
main squeeze...?

Trixie shakes her head.

32 TRIXIE
Uh-uh. No. Jake, please tell me
you're not gonna be in some play
just so you can flirty up to Rose.

As a sly smile creeps across Jake's face, we-

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOT SWEaty ARCADE - DAY

Rose slips a COIN into the jukebox and turns around, fanning herself with her "ANTONY & CLEOPATRA" SCRIPT. A gritty begins to play as the long shadow of a figure rises over her. She looks up to see-
Jake. Looking super cool. Leaning in the frame of the doorway. Silhouetted by the setting sun.

33 JAKE
Yo, Cleo P.

As he saunters into the arcade, reveal he's wearing RUSSELL CROW'S OUTFIT FROM GLADIATOR and holding a ROLLED UP SCRIPT of his own. He walks up close -- very close -- to Rose.

34 JAKE
Forsooth. Your Antony has arrived.

Rose offers a flirtatious smile.

35 ROSE
Then I suggest we rehearse.

ON A KUNG FU TABLE TOP VIDEO GAME MACHINE - as Jake and Rose take a seat on either side of it. They're underlit by the romantic glow of electronic fighting kung fu warriors.

Rose leans in, reciting her lines with ease.

36 ROSE
So it should be, that none but
Antony should conquer Antony; but
woe 'tis so!

Jake leans in even closer. Inches separate them.

37 JAKE
Yo, check it-I am dying, Egypt,
dying! Only I here importune death
awhile, until of many thousand
kisses the poor last I lay up thy
lips...

Just before they make lip-on-lip contact, we hear-

38 FU DOG (V.O.)

KID, STOP! YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE
THAT'S BEEN!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - THAT AFTERNOON

Jake has dipped a NASTY 'OL MOP in a passionate embrace and is about to kiss it. as Fu Dog snaps Jake out of his fantasy.

Grandpa walks up to Jake looking cross.

39 GRANDPA
Jake, have you heard a single word I have said?

Jake drops the mop and tries to act casual.

40 JAKE
Uh, sure! You were just saying... an ancient Chinese proverb that holds the key to me learning a really valuable lesson?

Grandpa places the mason jar containing the beetle on the counter in front of Jake.

41 SCARAB BEETLE

42 FU DOG
Gramps was sayin' you're supposed to protect the scarab beetle until we figure out a way to get it back to Egypt.

Jake taps the jar and nods coolly.

43 JAKE
Hey, no problem. I'm all over it.

He holds up his Antony and Cleopatra script.

44 JAKE
Anybody know what "importune" means?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GOTHIC BUILDING - NIGHT

PUSH IN - on the penthouse of a gothic style building on the edge of Central Park.

45 HUNTSMAN (V.O.)
Blast that American Dragon!

INT. GOTHIC PENTHOUSE - DINING ROOM - SAME

The penthouse is a sinister yet high-tech lair with magical creature skins adorning the walls. The Huntsman studies a holographic map of Manhattan above the roaring fireplace.

46 HUNTSMAN
We'll pick up the search tomorrow.
We will find him... and the beetle.

Thorn removes her mask revealing Rose.

47 ROSE
For all we know, the dragons
have already sent it back to Egypt.
Maybe we should just give up and--
The Huntsman spins around, snapping at her.

48 HUNTSMAN
Give up? Those dragons need to be
slain! Never forget that.

The Huntsman removes his glove revealing a dragon birthmark on his hand.

49 HUNTSMAN
It is your calling, as it is
mine...

He gestures to some marble sculptures of the Huntsclan.

50 HUNTSMAN
...as it is theirs.

Rose nods, looking down at her own dragon-shaped birthmark.

51 ROSE
I understand, Huntsmaster. But
what's so important about this one
Egyptian bug?

CUT TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND CATACOMBS - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

The Huntsman walks Rose through the dark, underground tomb filled catacombs, using his STAFF as a torch.

52 HUNTSMAN

For generations, the Huntsclan have hunted magical creatures, and for generations, dragons have stood in their way. Well no more.

He leads Rose into-

A VAST UNDERGROUND CAVERN FILLED WITH CRYPTS.

Rose stares at it in awe.

53 HUNTSMAN

Once we locate the scarab, we will use its life-giving powers to revive past generations of Huntsclan. Hundreds shall be reborn and become my army. An army which will wipe out dragons forever.

As the Huntsman evilly, we-

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - AUDITION MONTAGE - DAY

Jake is on-stage under a spotlight. An overhead banner reads, "MARK ANTONY AUDITIONS." He TAPS the mic.

54 JAKE

Yo-yo. Check it one time, ya'll. Jake Long in the house auditioning for the part of my man, Mark Antony.

He strikes a melodramatic pose and is actually very good.

55 JAKE

"I am dying, Egypt, dying; only I here importune death awhile, until Of many thousand kisses the poor last I lay up thy lips..."

CUT TO:

A KID kneels on-stage covered head to toe in cumbersome
hockey/goalie wear.

56 HOCKEY KID
I'm a pretty good forward, but what
I really wanna be is goalie.
(a beat)
This is hockey tryouts, right?

CUT TO:

BRAD stands on-stage struggling to read from his script.

57 BRAD
(monotone)
"Peace. Not Caesar's valour hath
o'erthrown Antony, But Antony's
hath triumph'd on itself."

He looks up, clearly proud of himself.

58 BRAD
So does the Bradster get to lock
lips with Cleopatra now or later?

CUT TO:

A SMALL PUERTO RICAN BOY wearing a vest stands on stage.

59 SMALL PUERTO RICAN BOY
El actuar no está sobre las
palabras, él está sobre la pasión!

SUBTITLE: "ACTING IS NOT ABOUT THE WORDS, IT IS ABOUT THE
PASSION!"

The boy places a ROSE in his teeth.
plays as he begins to samba with an
imaginary partner.

CUT TO:

Spud is on stage holding an upside down script.

60 SPUD
Um, I'm auditioning for
"understudy" on account of I have
the entire works of Shakespeare
committed to memory. And as an
added bonus-I ROCK! YEAH!

As Spud air guitars, we-

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

Jake and Spud excitedly burst out of the auditorium and are greeted by Trixie.

61 JAKE
Yo, Trix, my plan worked! I totally got the part!

62 SPUD
And I get to be his understudy!

Trixie turns to Jake and rolls her eyes.

63 TRIXIE
I'm tellin' you, Jake. Just shut down the whole mack daddy scheme and straight up ask the homegirl out.

Just then, Jake spots Rose and hurries O.S. after her.

64 JAKE (O.S.)
Yo, Cleo P.! Forsooth, your Antony has arrived!

A defeated Trixie turns to Spud.

65 TRIXIE
I try.

Spud puts a comforting arm around her.

66 SPUD
I know you do, honey. I know you do.

ON JAKE & ROSE - Rose reacts excitedly to Jake's news.

67 ROSE
Jake, this is gonna be so great! I can't wait to start rehearsing.

Jake nods, coolly.

68 JAKE
My thoughts exactly. How 'bout some one-on-one rehearsal time for the two leads? Your place? After school?

Rose nervously shakes her head.

69 ROSE
Uh... my place probably isn't such a good idea.

70 JAKE
It's cool. I know where we can go.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - AFTER SCHOOL

PUSH IN - on Grandpa's Chinatown shop.

71 ROSE (V.O.)
Anthony and Cleopatra are natural enemies...

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - SAME

Jake and Rose are alone in the shop, sitting in front of their open scripts.

72 ROSE
...forced to choose between love and responsibility to their cause.

Jake scoots a little closer to her and subtly tries to put his arm around her.

73 JAKE
Love and responsibility. Got it.

Rose flips towards the end of her script.

74 ROSE
So... I was thinking. Maybe we should skip to Act 4, Scene 15.

Jake is caught a little off-guard.

75 JAKE
Huh? You mean the scene with the
kiss? R-r-right now?

Rose nods.

76 ROSE
It's the emotional centerpiece of
the play. Is that cool?

Jake suddenly looks a bit nervous, but tries to cover.

77 JAKE
Pfft. Yeah, sure, totally cool!
'Cause I've kissed girls before.
Totally. Kissed girls. Before.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. JAKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - FIVE YEARS EARLIER

A YOUNGER JAKE is tucked in bed, wearing PJs. A YOUNGER MOM sits on his bed, with a book on her lap.

Jake kisses mom on the cheek.

78 YOUNGER JAKE
Thanks, Mommy. That was the best
bedtime story ever!

CUT TO:

INT. JAKE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY - THREE YEARS BEFORE THAT
AN EVEN YOUNGER JAKE runs up to AUNT PATCHOULI who stands in
the doorway holding LUGGAGE. He gives her a hug and a kiss.

79 YOUNGER JAKE
Aunt Patty, you're here!

CUT TO:

INT. JAKE'S KITCHEN - TWO YEARS BEFORE THAT
A STILL YOUNGER JAKE holds a CUTE PUPPY up to his face.

80 YOUNGER JAKE
C'mere, Princess!

81 ROSE (V.O.)
It's not just a kiss, Jake.

FLASH FORWARD
TO:

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - PRESENT DAY

Rose continues, speaking passionately.

82 ROSE
It's what the kiss represents: the totally intense connection between them. It doesn't just happen, it happens because they're ready to completely surrender to each other.
(then)
So... are you ready?

The reality of the situation has suddenly hit Jake like a mack truck. He , nervously.

83 JAKE
Huh? Oh sure, yeah. Ready.
Totally ready. For Act 4 Scene 15.
(then, offering)
Jerky?!

Jake holds up a BOWL OF JERKY.

84 ROSE
Excuse me?

85 JAKE
My Grandpa whipped some up for his mah-jongg buddies.
(shoves a handful into his mouth)
It's a little bland. You know where they have good jerky? Jersey!
Or as I like to call it, "New Jerkey!"

Rose gives Jake a look.

86 ROSE
Uh... are you okay?

Jake springs to his feet, in full panic attack mode. In doing so, he drops his script to the ground.

87 JAKE
Yeah, uh-huh, fine! I'm just gonna
run over to New Jersey and-

A flustered Jake slips on the script.

88 JAKE
Whooooo! Oof!

QUICK CUTS - Jake comically falls to the ground, and the
script flies across the room, hitting a MOUSETRAP which
and flies into the air, hitting a BOOK off of a
shelf. The book drops onto the cloth-covered beetle jar
resting on the counter.

89 SCARAB BEETLE
The jar drops to the floor behind
the counter with a

90 ROSE
Are you okay? What was that?

91 JAKE
Nothing!

Flustered, Jake gets up and leaps over the counter to find
the broken jar on the floor.

The bug is nowhere to be found.

92 JAKE
Aw, man...

FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - NIGHT

ESTABLISHING - on the shop.

93 GRANDPA (V.O.)
What do you mean you lost the
beetle?!

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - CONTINUOUS

Jake defends himself before a cross Grandpa and Fu Dog. The broken mason jar sits on the counter before them.

94 JAKE
I don't know what happened. I was
rehearsing lines with Rose and then
there was tripping... and Jerky...

95 FU DOG
Whoa. Hold up. Rehearsin' lines?
For what?

96 JAKE
The school play. I'm Antony, she's
Cleopatra...

Grandpa shakes his head.

97 GRANDPA
Jake, your responsibilities as the
American Dragon are to protect
magical creatures, not flirt with
schoolgirls!

Fu Dog nods, wearing an incredulous look.

98 FU DOG
Yeah, what were you thinking?

From behind Grandpa's back, Fu proudly gives Jake the thumbs up, not missing a beat.

99 FU DOG
(hushed)
Act 4? Scene 15? Va-va-voom!

100 JAKE
Don't worry, Gramps. I'll find the beetle, I promise.

As Grandpa and goes into the back room-
Fu Dog proudly pats Jake on the shoulder.

101 FU DOG

So you finally planted a smoochie
on Miss Rose or what?
Jake shake his head.

102 JAKE
I tried, but I don't know what happened. I just... freaked.

103 FU DOG

Don't worry kid. Everybody freaks
their first kiss. My
first time, her hair extensions got
caught in my wrinkles and we ended
up... Nevermind.

(then)

Point is, it'll happen when it's
right. No pressure.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL - NEXT DAY

Jake makes his way down the hallway as various BOYS
(including the Hockey Kid in his cumbersome goalie wear) slap him on the back and high-five him.

104 VARIOUS BOYS

Jake, heard you got the part!/Act 4
scene 15!/You lock lips with Rose
yet, or what?

105 JAKE
Hey sorry, y'all. Mad playa Jake
don't kiss and tell.

Jake continues on, walking up to Rose at her locker.

106 JAKE
Rose, hey. About last night...

Rose nods apologetically.

107 ROSE
Jake, I'm so sorry. It's just...
Act 4, Scene 15 is such a
passionate part of the play. I
really want to get it right. Sorry
if I freaked you out.

Jake feigns a scoff.

108 JAKE
Me? Freaked out? Rose, please!
Jake Long is all about the passion.
I just, uh, wanted to make sure you
weren't freaked.

109 ROSE
Oh, not at all. So... should we
pick up rehearsals tonight?

110 JAKE
Totally. How 'bout your place?

Rose hesitantly nods, trying to think of an excuse.

111 ROSE
Well, I guess we could, but...

112 JAKE
Cool! Your place it is.

OTS JAKE - As Rose offers a slightly worried smile, the glowing scarab beetle crawls out of Jake's jacket pocket and into his backpack. (Neither of them notice.)

113 SCARAB BEETLE

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GOTHIC BUILDING - DUSK

UP ANGLE - on the ominous looking gothic-style building.

114 JAKE (V.O.)
This is some place you got here.

INT. PENTHOUSE - DINING ROOM

Jake stands alone in front of the raging fireplace, surveying the place in awe.

115 JAKE
Seriously. My church isn't this nice.

Jake curiously pulls a BOOK out of a bookcase, promptly causing the wall behind him to transform into a WALL OF STAFFS, WEAPONS AND MAGICAL ANIMAL SKINS.

116 ROSE (O.S.)
(calling out)
I live here with my, uh... uncle.
This is like his castle.

An oblivious Jake shrugs and replaces the book, transforming the wall behind him back to normal.

Rose enters, carrying a TRAY with TWO GLASSES FILLED WITH PUNCH.

117 ROSE
I made us some punch.

Jake takes a glass, sips from it, and says oddly-

118 JAKE
Mmm. Passion fruit, yeah.

Rose doesn't know how to respond to this. After a long awkward beat, she opens her script and talks to fill the

silence.

119 ROSE
So... in this next scene, Antony
visits Cleopatra in Egypt, which to
him is enemy territory.

Jake nervously CRACKS his knuckles, stretches his neck, and does a quick blast of BREATH SPRAY, clearly psyching himself up.

120 JAKE
Uh-huh. So you wanna do this Act
4, Scene 15, or what?

Rose gives him a look.

121 ROSE
Uh... are you cool with that?
'Cause we don't have to, if-

Jake nods, talking himself into it.

122 JAKE
No, no. I'm cool. Totally. Cool.

Rose flips toward the end of her script.

123 ROSE
Okay. Here we go.
(then, reading)
"Quicken with kissing: had my lips
that power, thus would I wear them
out..."

As Rose continues, we PUSH IN CLOSE on a sweating, nervous Jake. His heart loudly.

124 JAKE (V.O.)
Be cool, Dude. Mack Daddy cool.
It's just a kiss. Here it comes.
She's leaning in... Just do what
she does...

Jake and Rose lean in closer and closer until-- startles them out of the moment.

125 ROSE

126 JAKE
Rose's face turns white as we hear
door open and SLAM.

127 ROSE
My uncle. He's home early! You
have to hide!

128 JAKE
Wha--? But--? Whaaaaa!

Rose grabs Jake's head and shoves him under the table.

ON JAKE - lying face down on the floor under the table, next
to his backpack. Rose peeks her head under the tablecloth.

129 ROSE
(hushed)
Sorry... he's, uh, really strict!

As Rose stands back up-

Jake peaks under the tablecloth to see a MAN'S DRESS SHOES
walk up right next to him. ROSE'S FEET are nearby.

130 HUNTSMAN (O.S.)
Why was the door bolted and latched
in six places?

131 ROSE (O.S.)
Uh, you can never be too safe!

Just then, the GLOWING SCARAB BEETLE scurries out of Jake's
backpack and across the Huntsman's feet!

132 SCARAB BEETLE

133 JAKE

134 HUNTSMAN (O.S.)
Is someone here?

Jake reaches out to grab the beetle but the Huntsman takes a
step forward, inadvertently stepping down onto his hand.

CLOSE ON JAKE - His eyes comically bug out as he bites down

on his free hand, suppressing a scream.

135 JAKE

136 ROSE (O.S.)
I swear, it's just me. Here alone.
All by my lonesome.

The Huntsman pivots on his heel, which digs into Jake's hand.
After a moment, his feet walk away. Jake quickly lifts up
his stepped-on hand and shakes it back to life.

137 JAKE

138 HUNTSMAN (O.S.)
I have an idea how to proceed with
our mission. Follow me.

As Jake reaches out to try and catch the bug, Rose
frantically reaches under the table and YANKS Jake back up.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE ROSE'S PENTHOUSE - TWO SECONDS LATER
The door opens and Rose tosses Jake out with his backpack.

139 JAKE
Whaaaa-Oof!

140 ROSE
I'm-really-sorry-call-ya-later-bye!

With that, she the door shut. Jake just lays there,
face down on the hallway carpet.

141 JAKE
(muffled)
Aw, man.

As lays there motionless, a vacuuming MAID walks up and
vacuums around him.

CUT TO:

INT. PENTHOUSE DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Rose walks up to the Huntsman, (now in his Hunstgear) sitting in a chair with his back to us. A MECHANISM lowers the helmet onto his head a la that shot in "Empire Strikes Back."

142 ROSE
So, Huntsmaster. What is your plan?

The Huntsman stands up and pulls out the same book Jake pulled earlier. In a matter of three seconds, the penthouse is transformed into the same sinister lair we saw in Act One. He grabs a staff from a cabinet of staffs and holds it upright. It projects a hologram of Grandpa in his human form.

143 HUNTSMAN
We may not know the American Dragon's human identity, but we know the Dragon Master's. He is our key to finding the scarab

LOW ANGLE ON FLOOR BEHIND THEM - the beetle scurries into Rose's backpack, unnoticed by either of them.

144 SCARAB BEETLE

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - NEXT MORNING

A concentrating Jake is doing a handstand with an encouraging Fu Dog perched atop his feet.

145 FU DOG
That's it, kid. Concentration and balance are a key part of dragon-

Rose walks in, wearing her backpack.

146 ROSE
Knock knock?

Freaked, Jake springs to his feet, causing Fu Dog to fly

across the room and into the back.

147 FU DOG
Whoaaaaah--OOF!

as Jake tries to act natural.

148 JAKE
Hey, Rose. Just doing my morning stretches. What's, uh, goin' on?

149 ROSE
I wanted to apologize for last night. It's just... my uncle is super strict and-

Just then, Grandpa calls out from the back room.

150 GRANDPA (O.S.)
Jake, if that's a customer with a return, tell them electronics are like bikinis-all sales are final!

Jake shrugs.

151 JAKE
Yeah, my Grandpa can be pretty strict sometimes, too. Working at his shop and everything.

152 ROSE
So... I guess we need to find a new place to rehearse.

153 JAKE
But your place is perfect! In fact, let's go there now. C'mon!

Jake starts to head towards the door, but Rose stops him.

154 ROSE
Jake, I told you. We can't. What about your house?

155 JAKE
My house?

FLASHCUT TO:

INT./EXT. JAKE'S HOUSE - JAKE'S NIGHTMARE - DAY

JAKE'S POV FROM THE PORCH - the door opens and HALEY

up from the bottom of the FRAME making .

MOM pops in from the left side of the FRAME and picture after picture at us in rapid-fire motion.

DAD leans in from FRAME RIGHT.

156 DAD

So this is the Rose we've heard so much about! (then) Ya know, son, I think it's time we had "the talk."

FLASHCUT BACK
TO:

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - BACK TO REALITY

Jake tells Rose matter-of-factly:

157 JAKE

My house is being fumigated. (beat)
But I think I know somewhere else we can go.

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. TRIXIE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

TIGHT ON A NERVOUS JAKE & ROSE - They lean in closer and closer as Rose recites her line.

158 ROSE

"Quicken with kissing: had my lips that power, thus would I wear them out..."

Just as their lips are about to touch-

159 TRIXIE (O.S.)

WIDE ANGLE - reveals Spud and a disgusted Trixie watching Jake and Rose rehearse. Spud eats from a BOWL OF POPCORN. Jake shoots Trixie an annoyed look.

160 TRIXIE

Okay, just 'cause I said you could rehearse at my place doesn't mean I'm gonna watch. C'mon Spud.

Trixie grabs Spud and heads towards the door.

161 SPUD
But it's Act 4, Scene fift--

162 TRIXIE
(calling out)
See ya, Grandma! Me and Spud are
goin' out!

163 TRIXIE'S GRANDMA (O.S.)
Take a coat, sweetie! And bring
Grandma back a carton of milk!

As Trixie and Spud exit, Rose and Jake turn back to the play.

164 JAKE
Well, looks like we're alone.

165 TRIXIE'S GRANDMA (O.S.)

166 JAKE
Sort of.

Rose turns back to Jake.

167 ROSE
Jake, I think I know why we're
having trouble with Act 4, Scene

Jake reacts, nervously.

168 JAKE
Trouble? What trouble? I'm not
having any trouble!

169 ROSE
(continuing)
We haven't earned it. See, Antony
and Cleopatra have been through so
much together, but we haven't been
through anything togeth--

170 SCARAB BEETLE (O.S.)
They both turn and look O.S. to see-
The magical glowing beetle crawls
out of Rose's backpack and quickly
scurries out an open window. Jake
and Rose are both stunned.

171 JAKE
Oh no!

172 ROSE
No way!

Jake turns to Rose, his mind spinning a mile a minute.

173 JAKE
Uh... you mind if we take five
before we start rehearsing? I need
to use the bathroom.

174 ROSE
Good idea. I need some air.

Rose hurries out the front door as-

Jake hurries into the bathroom.

INT. TRIXIE'S BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jake runs in, shuts the door and steals himself.

175 JAKE
Dragon up!

In a SWIRL OF MAGICAL FX, Jake turns into FULL DRAGON. He quickly opens the window and flies out.

EXT. ROOFTOP OF TRIXIE'S BUILDING - DUSK

Jake flies up over the top of the building.

176 JAKE
Heeeee-yaaa!

Thorn leaps up from the fire escape on the opposite side of the building.

177 THORN
They simultaneously land on the rooftop, face-to-face. The beetle is right in between them.

178 THORN
Dragon. Let's make this quick.

179 JAKE
Works for me.

Jake reaches down for the beetle, but Thorn grabs his arm,

and flips Jake head-over-heels onto his back.

180 JAKE
Whaaaa-oof!

As Thorn charges for the beetle, Jake leaps to his feet and throws a kung fu punch her way.

181 JAKE
Thorn counters with a roundhouse kick.

182 THORN

183 TRIXIE'S GRANDMA (O.S.)
Will you kids turn down the TV?
That kung fu movie sounds like it's comin' through the roof!

As they fight, the beetle crawls into a drainage pipe.
Jake and Thorn break apart and look around for the beetle.
It's nowhere to be found. They speak simultaneously.

184 JAKE
Where'd it go?! (then) I so don't have time for this.

185 THORN
Where'd it go?! (then) I so don't have time for this.

A beat, then Jake leaps off the side of the building as Thorn scurries down the fire escape on the opposite side.

INT. TRIXIE'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Jake (in human form) walks out of the bathroom as Rose walks in the front door. Both are slightly out-of-breath.

186 ROSE
You mind if we take five more minutes? I have to use the bathroom.

187 JAKE
I need some air.

Rose briskly walks into the bathroom while Jake briskly walks out the front door.

EXT. ROOFTOP OF TRIXIE'S BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER

Dragon Jake flies up over the top of the building.

188 JAKE
Heeeeee-yaaa!

Thorn leaps up from the fire escape on the opposite side of the building.

189 THORN
As they collide mid-air over the rooftop, and fall to the ground.

190 JAKE/THORN
Oof!

Just then, the beetle scurries out of the rain gutter right beside Jake.

191 SCARAB BEETLE
As Jake reaches out to finally grab it-

192 JAKE
That's it... Hold still...

The HUNTSMAN'S GLOVED HAND enters frame and snatches it.

WIDEN - The Huntsman stands beside Jake, holding up the beetle triumphantly. Thorn walks over to him.

193 HUNTSMAN
Finally. My army of Huntsclan can now be reborn!

The Huntsman POUNDS his staff to the ground. He, Thorn, and the beetle disappear in a dramatic blinding effect.

Jake looks on helplessly as we-

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - NEXT MORNING

Grandpa paces as Jake sits at the table, looking worried. Fu Dog pours over some spell books.

194 GRANDPA
You are sure you heard him correctly?

195 JAKE
Yeah. He said his army of Huntsclan can now be reborn.

Fu Dog looks up from an ANCIENT SPELLBOOK, alarmed.

196 FU DOG
Yup. According my potions book, the scarab beetle is a key ingredient in a spell that brings dead people back to life.

Jake shakes his head.

197 JAKE
This is all my fault, G. If I'd just listened to you and stopped obsessing over Rose...

Grandpa puts a comforting arm around Jake.

198 GRANDPA
Do not worry. Grandpa's been there too. Young... Wide eyed... Easily blinded by beauty and desire and...

A disgusted Fu Dog squeezes in between them, holding the spellbook.

199 FU DOG
Ay-ay-ay! Too much information!
(then) Besides, I found somethin' else...

Fu opens the book wider and a MAGICAL HOLOGRAM OF A FULL MOON comes out of it.

200 FU DOG
It seems the spell can only be done under the light of a full moon... which is tonight.

Jake reacts.

201 JAKE
But tonight's the play!
(off Grandpa's look)
...which I can totally miss. Since this is way more important.

Grandpa looks up at the clock.

202 GRANDPA
We have nine hours to locate the tomb of the Huntsclan.

Off of their worried looks, we-

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DELACORTE THEATRE - DUSK
WIDE ESTABLISHING ON THE STAGE - PEOPLE begin to file in and take their seat as the sun sets over the BG buildings.

203 JAKE (V.O.)
Still nothing on the Huntsclan's burial ground?

ANGLE BACKSTAGE
Spud sits at the craft service table, typing on a LAPTOP COMPUTER. Jake anxiously leans over Spud's shoulder as various KIDS IN ROMAN SOLDIER OUTFITS and EGYPTIAN GARB prepare for the play behind them.

204 SPUD
Sorry, Dude. So far, my internet search is turning up nada.
(then)
On the plus side I found a killer coupon for the new Juice-a-teria on 34th street...

Jake SIGHS nervously and looks up and spots Rose approaching.
He walks up to her.

205 JAKE
Rose, there's something I have to-

206 ROSE
Jake, there's something I have to-

207 JAKE
You first.

208 ROSE
No, you first.

A beat of hesitation, then-

209 JAKE
I can't do the play tonight.
(a beat)
Huh?

210 ROSE
I can't do the play tonight.
(a beat)
Huh?

Rose shrugs.

211 ROSE
I'm really sorry to bail on you
again, but this, uh, family thing
just came up.

Jake reacts, surprised.

212 JAKE
Really? Me... too.

213 ROSE
(sadly)
I guess Act 4, Scene 15 was never
meant to be.

A beat, as Rose reconsiders and checks her watch.

214 ROSE
Although... my family thing
shouldn't last too long. If I
leave now, I think I can make it
back in time.

Jake brightens at the thought and reconsiders as well.

215 JAKE
Really? Me... too!

Rose smiles.

216 ROSE
It's a date.

As Rose hurries off-

217 SPUD (O.S.)
Dude, I think I found something!

Jake runs back over to Spud, who gestures to his lap top.

218 SPUD
According to this urban myth website, there's a cave near the southern rim of the park. A few years back, some dude went into it and was never seen again. A month later, they found his camera...

CLOSE ON MONITOR - A PICTURE OF A TOMB. Carved into is an elaborate "H" with two Huntsclan staffs crossed over it.

219 SPUD (O.S., CONT'D)
...along with this picture.

220 JAKE (O.S.)
That's it. Spud, you rock!

BACK TO SCENE

221 SPUD
Dude. Tell me something I don't need to know.

As Spud air guitars, Jake runs off, shouting-

222 JAKE
I'll be back. And no matter what happens, keep the play going long enough for Act 4, Scene 15!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND CAVERN FILLED WITH CRYPTS - NIGHT

The Huntsman and Thorn stand side-by-side atop a crypt.

Thorn holds out an open SPELLBOOK. A single beam of moonlight

streams down from an overhead crevice and moves slowly towards them.

The Huntsman holds the beetle in his extended fist towards the approaching moonbeam. He recites from Thorn's spell book.

223 HUNTSMAN
Ortus...exist...exercitus...

224 JAKE (O.S.)
Dorkus...freako...give-it-up
itus...

The Huntsman and Thorn spin around to see-
Dragon Grandpa, Dragon Jake, and Fu Dog stepping out of the
shadows.

225 HUNTSMAN
Dragons!

Grandpa and Jake lunge at The Huntsman and Thorn, knocking
them off the crypt.

226 HUNTSMAN/THORN
Whaaa!/Ooof!

The four of them tumble to the ground as-
The Huntsman drops the beetle, which scurries across the
ground.

227 SCARAB BEETLE

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DELACORTE THEATRE - NIGHT

The curtain opens to reveal Spud alone on-stage. He wears a
Roman soldier costume.

228 SPUD
My dearest Cleopatra, there's
beggary in the love that can be
reckon'd.

After a beat of silence, Spud takes a step over, assuming the role of Cleopatra.

229 SPUD
(falsetto)
Oh Antony, I'll set a bourn how far
to be beloved.

ANGLE ON THE WINGS

A horrified Ms. Jenkins looks on.

230 MS. JENKINS
What the..? He's doing both roles?

She frantically turns to Trixie.

231 MS. JENKINS
You! On stage. You're my new
Cleopatra!

232 TRIXIE
Yo, I'm not going on stage. I'm
just here to show my bud Spud some
support-aaaah!

Ms. Jenkins plunks an EGYPTIAN HEADDRESS on Trixie, shoves her on stage, and tosses her a SCRIPT

CUT TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND CAVERN - NIGHT

The Huntsman swings his staff at Grandpa-

233 HUNTSMAN
-who ducks and counters with a
blast of . Meanwhile- Fu Dog shouts
towards a scuffling Jake and Thorn.

234 JAKE/THORN

235 FU DOG
Kid, whatever you do, keep the
scarab out of the moonlight!

Just then, the Beetle scurries into the shard of moonlight.

236 SCARAB BEETLE
 Jake, Thorn, Grandpa, and the Huntsman look on as- The beetle glows into a blinding white, levitates, and shoots out three beams across the room, each hitting a crypt. QUICK CUTS - ARMS punch out of each of the crypts.

237 VARIOUS HUNTSCLAN
 Fu Dog deadpans.

238 FU DOG
 I tell the kid but does he listen?

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DELACORTE THEATRE - SAME TIME

Spud, as Mark Antony, stands on-stage opposite Trixie's Cleopatra.

239 SPUD
 There's not a minute of our lives should stretch without some pleasure now. What sport tonight?

Trixie pauses, considering her options. After a beat, she sassily snaps her fingers.

240 TRIXIE
 Yo, Antony, peep game. I don't know whatcha got crackilatin' in that Roman head 'a yours, but ya'll better bow down and respect the Nubian Queen!

ANGLE ON THE WINGS

Ms. Jenkins looks on in horror, saying to anyone listening-

241 MS. JENKINS
 Somebody yank her bootie off!
 (then, to herself) My father told me to become a dental hygienist, but did I listen?

CUT TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND CATACOMBS - SAME TIME

As THREE RESURRECTED HUNTSCLANSMEN start to climb out of their crypts, bathed in resurrection beams,-
Grandpa snatches the beetle from the moonlight, causing the beams to cease.

242 GRANDPA
Ha! Gotcha!

Just then, an ARM reaches out of the crypt behind him and grabs him.

243 JAKE
Gramps!

A trapped Grandpa is cornered by Thorn (holding the spell book) and the Huntsman. The Huntsman points his staff at him.

244 HUNTSMAN
Hand over the beetle, old man.

BACK ON JAKE

He lunges at Thorn, and the spellbook goes flying.

245 THORN

246 JAKE
Sorry, Huntspunk. Can't finish the spell without a spellbook.

Jake breathes DRAGON FIRE on the airborne spellbook, causing it to EXPLODE in a fiery ball, mid air.

THE RESURRECTED CLANSMEN crumble into piles of dust and Huntsgear as-

A freed Grandpa lunges at the distracted Huntsman. They struggle for control of the staff. It BLASTS in different directions.

247 GRANDPA / HUNTSMAN
A blast HITS Thorn's leg. She falls to the ground, clutching her shin in pain.

248 THORN
Just then, another staff BLAST shoots skyward causing- CHUNKS OF CEILING to dislodge above them. The Huntsman frees himself from Grandpa and grabs Thorn.

249 HUNTSMAN
Another day, Dragons.

He POUNDS his staff to the ground, and he and Thorn disappear in a cool swirl of FX.

Grandpa, Fu, and Jake dust themselves off.

250 FU DOG
Way to go, kid.

Grandpa TRANSFORMS back to his human self and nods proudly, still holding the beetle.

251 GRANDPA
Well done, young dragon.
(then)
You know, if you leave now, you can still make it back for Act 4, Scene

Jake smiles, then nods gallantly.

252 JAKE
Thanks, G. If you'll excuse me, I have an Egyptian Queen to kiss.

As Jake flies out of the hole above them, we-

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DELACORTE THEATRE - MOMENTS LATER

ANGLE ON THE WINGS

A victorious Jake, wearing his Mark Antony costume, runs past a backstage Trixie and up to a frantic Ms. Jenkins.

253 MS. JENKINS
 Jake! For the love of Shakespeare!
 You're just in time for the kiss!
 Get out there and save my play!

ON STAGE - Jake confidently approaches Cleopatra, whose back is turned.

254 JAKE
 I am dying, Egypt, dying! Only I here importune death awhile, until of many thousand kisses the poor last I lay up thy lips...

He spins Cleopatra around and dips her. As Jake looks down at her, his eyes fill with shock.

OTS JAKE - Spud is cradled in Jake's arms, wearing an Egyptian headdress and a blonde wig.

255 SPUD
 What up, Dude? Trixie got the hook, but I kept the play going just like you said.

256 JAKE
 Wha...? But... where's Rose?

Ms. Jenkins looks on, frantically stage-whispering-

257 MS. JENKINS
 C'mon! What're you waiting for?

Jake pauses, not sure what to do. He looks down at Spud.

258 JAKE
 Aw, man.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - NEXT MORNING

Jake, Trixie and Spud walk down the hallway. Jake pauses when he sees Rose behind a group of KIDS.

259 JAKE
 Hey Rose, I-

As the kids step aside, we reveal Rose's leg is bandaged. She

balances herself on a PAIR OF CRUTCHES.

260 JAKE
Whoa. What happened?

261 ROSE
I'm such a klutz. While I was at my family thing, I totally fell and sprained my ankle. That's why I didn't make it back last night.

Jake suspiciously eyes her bandaged ankle.

262 JAKE
Hey, it's, uh... cool. I'm just glad you're... okay.

After a beat, Jake snaps out of it.

263 JAKE
You know, I hear they're doing "Shakespeare on Ice" in Rockefeller Center this winter. Maybe you and me could--

264 TRIXIE
Jake pauses, summoning up the courage.

265 JAKE
Better yet, maybe, um, we could go out on a real date sometime. Just you and me.

Rose smiles as the

266 ROSE
I'd like that. Talk to you later?

Jake smiles.

267 JAKE
Definitely.

As Rose hobbles off on her crutches, Spud and Trixie proudly pat Jake on the shoulder.

268 SPUD
Dude, you did it! You asked her out!

269 TRIXIE
See, Jake? How hard was that?

Jake promptly passes out in the middle of the hallway.

CUT TO BLACK:

270 TRIXIE (O.S.)
Jake?

END SHOW